

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

June 29, 2026

{ Solemnity – Peter and Paul, Apostles }



Stand and make sign of cross

God, come to my assistance.

— Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN

This happy feast day, through the world from end to end,
excels in gladness, and in apostolic praise
of blessed Peter, of devout and holy Paul,
whom Christ appointed Princes over ev'ry Church
and consecrated with his pure, life-giving blood.

These two are verdant olive trees before the Lord
and radiant lampstands shining forth with splendid flame,
twin stars of heaven, brilliant in the light they shed;
they loosen fetters, freeing sinners strongly bound,
and for the faithful they unlock the gates of heav'n.

Praise to the Father, endless glory through all time,
all rule and splendor be to you, Begotten Son,
all pow'r and honor to the Holy Paraclete:
so to the perfect, undivided Three in One,
be all salvation through the ages evermore. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: ANNUE CHRISTE, 12 12 12 12 12; from François de La
Feillée's Methode de plain-chant, 1782, adapted by ICEL, 2021*

Plainsong, mode IV, melody 79; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Felix per
omnes festum mundi cardines, attributed to St. Paulinus of Aquileia, ca. 726-802*

*The English translation of Hymns and chants from The Liturgy of the Hours © 2023
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Sit or Stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

If you love me, Simon Peter, feed my sheep.

Psalm 19A

Praise of the Lord, Creator of all

*The dawn from on high shall break on us . . . to guide our feet into the way of peace
(Luke 1:78, 79).*

The héavens procláim the glóry of Gód *
and the fírmament shows fóρθ the wórk of his hánds.
Dáy unto dáy tákes up the stóry *
and níght unto níght makes knówn the méssage.

No spéech, no wórd, no vóice is héard †
yet their spán exténds through áll the éarth, *
their wórd to the útmost bóunds of the wórl.

Thére he has pláced a tént for the sún; †
it comes fóρθ like a brídegroom cóming from his tént, *
rejóices like a chámption to rún its cóurse.

At the énd of the ský is the rísing of the sún; †
to the fúrthest énd of the ský is its cóurse. *
There is nóthing concéaled from its búrning héat.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

If you love me, Simon Peter, feed my sheep.

Antiphon 2

For me life is Christ, and death is gain; I must glory in the cross of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalm 64

Prayer for help against enemies

This psalm commemorates most particularly our Lord's passion (Saint Augustine).

Hear my voice, O Gód, as I complain, *
guard my life from dréad of the fóe.
Hide me from the bánd of the wícked, *
from the thróng of thóse who do évil.

They shárpen their tóngues like swórd; *
they áim bitter wórds like árrows
to shóot at the ínnocent from ámbush, *
shóoting súddenly and récklessly.

They schéme their évil cóurse; *
they conspíre to lay sécret snáres.
They sáy: "Whó will sée us? *
Whó can séarch out our crímes?"

He will séarch who séarches the mínd *
and knóws the dépth of the héart.
Gód has shót them with his árrow *
and déalt them súdden wóunds.
Their ówn tongue has bróught them to rúin *
and áll who sée them móck.

Thén will áll men féar; †
they will téll what Gód has dóne. *
They will únderstánd God's déeds.
The júst will rejóice in the Lórd †
and flý to hím for réfuge. *
All the úpright héarts will glóry.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

For me life is Christ, and death is gain; I must glory in the cross of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Antiphon 3

Lord, if it is you, bid me walk across the waters.

Psalm 97

The glory of the Lord in his decrees for the world

This psalm foretells a world-wide salvation and that peoples of all nations will believe in Christ (St. Athanasius).

The Lord is kÍng, let éarth rejóice, *
let áll the cóastlands be glád.
Clóud and dárkness are his ráiment; *
his thróne, jústice and rÍght.

A fire preparés his páth; *
it búrn up his fóes on every síde.
His líghtnings líght up the wórlð, *
the éarth trémbles at the síght.

The móuntains mélt like wáx *
before the Lórd of áll the éarth.
The skÍes procláim his jústice; *
all péoples sée his glóry.

Let thóse who serve ídols be ashámed, †
those who bóast of their wóρθless góds. *
All you spÍrits, wórship hÍm.

ZÍon héars and is glád; †
the péople of Júdah rejóice *
becáuse of your júdgments, O Lórd.

For yóu indéed are the Lórd, †
most hÍgh above áll the éarth, *
exálted far abóve all spÍrits.

The Lórd loves thóse who hate évil: †
he gúards the sóuls of his sáints; *
he sÉts them frée from the wÍcked.

LÍght shÍnes fóρθ for the júst *
and jóy for the úprÍght of héart.
Rejóice, you júst, in the Lórd; *

give glóry to his hólý náme.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,*
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,*
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

Lord, if it is you, bid me walk across the waters.

VERSE

The word of the Lord lives for ever.

— This is the good news that has been preached to you.

Sit

READINGS

First reading

From a letter of the apostle Paul to the Galatians

1:15—2:10

The discussion between Peter and Paul

The time came when he who had set me apart before I was born and called me by his favor chose to reveal his Son to me, that I might spread among the Gentiles the good tidings concerning him. Immediately, without seeking human advisers or even going to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before me, I went off to Arabia; later I returned to Damascus. Three years after that I went up to Jerusalem to get to know Cephas, with whom I stayed fifteen days. I did not meet any other apostles except James, the brother of the Lord. I declare before God that what I have just written is true.

Thereafter I entered the regions of Syria and Cilicia. The communities of Christ in Judea had no idea what I looked like; they had only heard that “he who was formerly persecuting us is now preaching the faith he tried to destroy,” and they gave glory to God on my account.

Then, after fourteen years, I went up to Jerusalem again with Barnabas, this time taking Titus with me. I went prompted by a

revelation, and I laid out for their scrutiny the gospel as I present it to the Gentiles—all this in private conference with the leaders, to make sure the course I was pursuing, or had pursued, was not useless. Not even Titus, who was with me, was ordered to undergo circumcision, despite his being a Greek.

Certain false claimants to the title of brother were smuggled in; they wormed their way into the group to spy on the freedom we enjoy in Christ Jesus and thereby to make slaves of us, but we did not submit to them for a moment. We resisted so that the truth of the gospel might survive intact for your benefit.

Those who were regarded as important, however (and it makes no difference to me how prominent they were—God plays no favorites), made me add nothing.

On the contrary, recognizing that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter was for the circumcised (for he who worked through Peter as his apostle among the Jews had been at work in me for the Gentiles), and recognizing, too, the favor bestowed on me, those who were the acknowledged pillars, James, Cephas, and John, gave Barnabas and me the handclasp of fellowship, signifying that we should go to the Gentiles as they to the Jews. The only stipulation was that we should be mindful of the poor—the one thing that I was making every effort to do.

Responsory

Matthew 16:18-19

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

— I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth will be held bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth will be held loosed in heaven.

— I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Second reading

From a sermon by Saint Augustine, bishop

(*Sermo 295, 1-2. 4. 7-8: PL 38, 1348-1352*)

The martyrs realized what they taught

This day has been made holy by the passion of the blessed apostles Peter and Paul. We are, therefore, not talking about some obscure martyrs. *For their voice has gone forth to all the world, and to the ends of the earth their message.* These martyrs realized what they taught: they pursued justice, they confessed the truth, they died for it.

Saint Peter, the first of the apostles and a fervent lover of Christ, merited to hear these words: *I say to you that you are Peter*, for he had said: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Then Christ said: *And I say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.* On this rock I will build the faith that you now confess, and on your words: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God, I will build my Church.* For you are Peter, and the name Peter comes from *petra*, the word for “rock,” and not vice versa. “Peter” comes, therefore, from *petra*, just as “Christian” comes from Christ.

As you are aware, Jesus chose his disciples before his passion and called them apostles; and among these almost everywhere Peter alone deserved to represent the entire Church. And because of that role which he alone had, he merited to hear the words: *To you I shall give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.* For it was not one man who received the keys, but the entire Church considered as one. Now insofar as he represented the unity and universality of the Church, Peter’s preeminence is clear from the words: *To you I give*, for what was given was given to all. For the fact that it was the Church that received the keys of the kingdom of God is clear from what the Lord says elsewhere to all the apostles: *Receive the Holy Spirit, adding immediately, whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven, and whose sins you retain, they are retained.*

Rightly then did the Lord after his resurrection entrust Peter with the feeding of his sheep. Yet he was not the only disciple to merit the feeding of the Lord’s sheep; but Christ in speaking only to one suggests the unity of all; and so he speaks to Peter, because Peter is first among the apostles. Therefore do not be disheartened, Peter; reply once, reply twice, reply a third time. The triple confession of your love is to regain what was lost three times by your fear. You

must loose three times what you bound three times; untie by love that which your fear bound. Once, and again, and a third time did the Lord entrust his sheep to Peter.

Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labors, their sufferings, their preaching and their confession of faith.

Responsory

Blessed apostle Paul, preacher of the truth and teacher of the Gentiles,

— you are truly worthy of praise.

Through you all peoples have come to know God's grace.

— You are truly worthy of praise.

Stand

TE DEUM

You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free
you did not spurn the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our Father,
today you give us the joy
of celebrating the feast of the apostles Peter and Paul.
Through them your Church first received the faith.
Keep us true to their teaching.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

— Amen.

Acclamation

Let us praise the Lord.

— And give him thanks.

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